# THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

**Thursday, 13th May 1954.**

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, at eight of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

## I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

## STARRED QUESTIONS.

*Import of rice from the Andhra State.*

* 724 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the State Government have made adequate arrangements with the Andhra State to import rice into Madras State;

(*b*) the annual requirement of rice to the Madras State from Andhra State; and

(*c*) the estimated quantity of rice to be procured from Tanjore district?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) A quantity of about 2·3 lakhs tons of rice was being supplied annually from the Andhra surplus districts to the deficit districts in the residuary Madras State. Besides this, the annual requirements of rice of this State are met out of imports from the Government of India and from local procurement. The Government of India used to allot stocks from surplus States.

" (*c*) A quantity of about 75,000 tons of rice is expected to be procured from Tanjore district under the levy scheme during the current year (1954)."

SRI A. RATNAM :—" பிரஸ்தாப ஆண்டில் ஆந்திர தேசத்திலிருந்து சென்னை ராஜ்யத்திற்கு எவ்வளவு அரிசி கொடுக்கப்படவேண்டுமென்று சொல்ல முடியுமா? இதுவரையில் வந்திருக்கும் தொகை என்ன? நமது ராஜ்யத்தில் எவ்வளவு தான்யம், அரிசி, நெல், கொள்முதல் செய்ய சர்க்கார் திட்டமிட்டிருக்கிறது ?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Under the arrangement, it is expected that we would be getting two lakhs of tons from the Andhra State, one lakh on Government account and one lakh on private trade account."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" On a prior occasion it was found that when the rice exported from Andhra actually arrived here, there was shortage in every bag and the Madras State had to incur very heavy losses on that account. Will the Government at least hereafter be careful and see to it that rice, without shortage, is exported from Andhra? Will they see to it that these shortages do not recur in future? "

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The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Yes, Sir, we have learnt from experience. We are taking all possible precautions in the matter."

Sri P. JEEVANANDAM :—" கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, நமது ராஜ்யத்திலிருந்து தான்யம், அரிசி கொள்முதல் செய்வதற்கு யாருக்கு அதிகாரம் அளிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இந்த நெல் எந்த ஜில்லாவுக்கு செல்கிறது ?"

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Procurement is being done in Tanjore district. The target of procurement in that district is about 75,000 tons. I hope the target would be reached."

Sri K. PARTHASARATHY :—" I read from the crop report published in the Gazette that it was estimated that this year the paddy yield would be 37 per cent above the normal yield. If that is so, may I know why we should go in for any import of rice from Andhra State? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" As far as Government are concerned we are moving only one lakh tons on Government account from Andhra. It is for private trade to watch the trend of rise or fall in the price of rice. It is for them to see to it whether in the event of more production of rice here, it is necessary for them to import the one lakh of tons of rice from Andhra. So far as we are concerned, we are moving only one lakh tons from Andhra on Government account. It is for the private trade to act accordingly."

Sri R. S. ARUMUGAM :—" உபரி ஜில்லாவாகிய தஞ்சையிலிருந்து procurement செய்ய யாருக்கு அதிகாரம் கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அந்தத் தானியங்கள் எந்தெந்த ஜில்லாவுக்கு எடுத்துச் செல்லப்படுகிறது ?"

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" We have got our procuring agents. They procure on behalf of Government. The rice procured in surplus districts is moved to deficit districts."

Sri T. ANANTHA PAI :—" Is it a fact that the Government have permitted the sale of Andhra rice in the open market in Malabar and South Kanara districts? May I know what arrangements they have made for the sale of rice? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The much discussed red variety of rice is available in Andhra. We refused to take that on Government account. But about 40,000 tons of that red rice is available and we have come to an arrangement with Andhra by which a specified quantity of that rice would be imported by merchants by the grant of free permits and that would be sold in Malabar and South Kanara districts in the open market."

Sri V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" If the rice position has considerably improved, may I know when Government hope that rice would be sold in the State at Re. 0–8–0 a measure? "

Mr. SPEAKER :—" Eight annas a measure."

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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" As soon as the price reaches that level, Sir."

SRI KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE :—" A report appearing in yesterday's ' Mail ' says that the rice trading is dull in Tanjore district, because the demand for Tanjore rice from deficit districts this year has considerably declined and in view of the fact that Tanjore rice is better in quality than the rice exported from Andhra, will the Government consider the desirability of procurng more rice from Tanjore district? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" We do not intend to procure more than 75,000 tons from Tanjore district. The rest of the rice will be available for sale there in the open market."

*Representation from the Tamilian students of the Anantapur Engineering College for transfer to any of the Engineering Colleges in the Madras State.*

* 725 Q.—SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Tamilian students of the Anantapur Engineering College sent a memorandum to the Government asking for their mass transfer to any of the Engineering Colleges in the Madras State; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (a) Yes, Sir.

" (b) After a detailed examination of the representations, the Government decided that it will not be practicable to effect a mass transfer of the students to the Engineering Colleges in the Madras State and that individual requests for transfer may be considered on merits as and when such requests are made."

*Functions of Centre Khadi Officers.*

* 726 Q.—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) since how long the Centre Khadi Officers have been functioning in the State?

(b) what their functions are?

(c) the annual expenditure on the establishment for the Khadi Scheme; and

(d) the amount of aid and loans disbursed in the year 1952 for the Khadi Scheme.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) Since December 1946.